

§ 52.21 Definitions.

As used in this subpart:

(a) The term *broadband PCS* has the same meaning as that term is defined in § 24.5 of this chapter.

(b) The term *cellular service* has the same meaning as that term is defined in § 22.99 of this chapter.

(c) The term *covered SMR* means either 800 MHz and 900 MHz SMR licensees that hold geographic area licenses or incumbent wide area SMR licensees that offer real-time, two-way switched voice service that is interconnected with the public switched network, either on a stand-alone basis or packaged with other telecommunications services. This term does not include local SMR licensees offering mainly dispatch services to specialized customers in a non-cellular system configuration, licensees offering only data, one-way, or stored voice services on an interconnected basis, or any SMR provider that is not interconnected to the public switched network.

(d) The term *database method* means a number portability method that utilizes one or more external databases for providing called party routing information.

(e) The term *downstream database* means a database owned and operated by an individual carrier for the purpose of providing number portability in conjunction with other functions and services.

(f) The term *incumbent wide area SMR licensee* has the same meaning as that term is defined in § 20.3 of this chapter.

(g) The term *local exchange carrier* means any person that is engaged in the provision of telephone exchange service or exchange access. For purposes of this subpart, such term does not include a person insofar as such person is engaged in the provision of a commercial mobile service under 47 U.S.C. 332(c).

(h) The term *local number portability administrator (LNPA)* means an independent, non-governmental entity, not aligned with any particular telecommunications industry segment, whose duties are determined by the NANC.

(i) The term *location portability* means the ability of users of telecommunications services to retain existing tele-

communications numbers without impairment of quality, reliability, or convenience when moving from one physical location to another.

(j) The term *long-term database method* means a database method that complies with the performance criteria set forth in § 52.3(a).

(k) The term *number portability* means the ability of users of telecommunications services to retain, at the same location, existing telecommunications numbers without impairment of quality, reliability, or convenience when switching from one telecommunications carrier to another.

(l) The term *regional database* means an SMS database or an SMS/SCP pair that contains information necessary for carriers to provide number portability in a region as determined by the NANC.

(m) The term *service control point (SCP)* means a database in the public switched network which contains information and call processing instructions needed to process and complete a telephone call. The network switches access an SCP to obtain such information. Typically, the information contained in an SCP is obtained from the SMS.

(n) The term *service management system (SMS)* means a database or computer system not part of the public switched network that, among other things:

(1) Interconnects to an SCP and sends to that SCP the information and call processing instructions needed for a network switch to process and complete a telephone call; and

(2) Provides telecommunications carriers with the capability of entering and storing data regarding the processing and completing of a telephone call.

(o) The term *service portability* means the ability of users of telecommunications services to retain existing telecommunications numbers without impairment of quality, reliability, or convenience when switching from one telecommunications service to another, without switching from one telecommunications carrier to another.

(p) The term *service provider portability* means the ability of users of telecommunications services to retain,

at the same location, existing telecommunications numbers without impairment of quality, reliability, or convenience when switching from one telecommunications carrier to another.

(q) The term *transitional measure* means a method such as Remote Call Forwarding (RCF), Flexible Direct Inward Dialing (DID), or other comparable and technically feasible arrangement that allows one local exchange carrier to transfer telephone numbers from its network to the network of another telecommunications carrier, but does not comply with the performance criteria set forth in § 52.3(a).

[61 FR 38637, July 25, 1996. Redesignated at 61 FR 47353, Sept. 6, 1996, as amended at 61 FR 47355, Sept. 6, 1996]

§ 52.23 Deployment of long-term database methods for number portability by LECs.

(a) Subject to paragraphs (b) and (c) of this section, all local exchange carriers (LECs) must provide number portability in compliance with the following performance criteria:

(1) Supports network services, features, and capabilities existing at the time number portability is implemented, including but not limited to emergency services, CLASS features, operator and directory assistance services, and intercept capabilities;

(2) Efficiently uses numbering resources;

(3) Does not require end users to change their telecommunications numbers;

(4) Does not result in unreasonable degradation in service quality or network reliability when implemented;

(5) Does not result in any degradation in service quality or network reliability when customers switch carriers;

(6) Does not result in a carrier having a proprietary interest;

(7) Is able to migrate to location and service portability; and

(8) Has no significant adverse impact outside the areas where number portability is deployed.

(b)(1) All LECs must provide a long-term database method for number portability in the 100 largest Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) by December 31, 1998, in accordance with the deployment

schedule set forth in the Appendix to this part, in switches for which another carrier has made a specific request for the provision of number portability, subject to paragraph (b)(2) of this section.

(2) Any procedure to identify and request switches for deployment of number portability must comply with the following criteria:

(i) Any wireline carrier that is certified (or has applied for certification) to provide local exchange service in a state, or any licensed CMRS provider, must be permitted to make a request for deployment of number portability in that state;

(ii) Carriers must submit requests for deployment at least nine months before the deployment deadline for the MSA;

(iii) A LEC must make available upon request to any interested parties a list of its switches for which number portability has been requested and a list of its switches for which number portability has not been requested; and

(iv) After the deadline for deployment of number portability in an MSA in the 100 largest MSAs, according to the deployment schedule set forth in the appendix to this part, a LEC must deploy number portability in that MSA in additional switches upon request within the following time frames:

(A) For remote switches supported by a host switch equipped for portability ("Equipped Remote Switches"), within 30 days;

(B) For switches that require software but not hardware changes to provide portability ("Hardware Capable Switches"), within 60 days;

(C) For switches that require hardware changes to provide portability ("Capable Switches Requiring Hardware"), within 180 days; and

(D) For switches not capable of portability that must be replaced ("Non-Capable Switches"), within 180 days.

(c) Beginning January 1, 1999, all LECs must make a long-term database method for number portability available within six months after a specific request by another telecommunications carrier in areas in which that telecommunications carrier is operating or plans to operate.